



Raising Spiritual and Educational Work To A New Level In Uzbekistan, Studying The State Of The Socio-Spiritual Environment, and Technologies For Its Improvement

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Abstract: *This article analyzes the technologies for elevating spiritual and educational activities in Uzbekistan to a new level, studying and improving the socio-spiritual environment. It examines the composition of the social environment, the spirituality of youth, problems in the education system, and the role of mass media. Methods for solving existing problems through innovative approaches, educational programs, and modern technologies are proposed. The article emphasizes the necessity of joint efforts by the state and the public in enhancing social values and provides practical recommendations aimed at educating future generations.*

Keywords: Development, Human Rights, Dignity, Spirituality, Enlightenment, Society, Science, Culture, Innovation, Technology, Ideology.

Introduction

Today, our society has stepped into a new stage of development. At this spiritually new stage of the country's social-political and economic life, the well-being of the people, human rights, and dignity have been set as the highest goals. In our opinion, "...the spiritual image of the New Uzbekistan we dream of is a society of enlightenment, where the aspirations of our people are clearly reflected, and where our nation lives happily".

As our President Shavkat Mirziyoyev emphasized in his speech at the expanded meeting of the Republican Council for Spirituality and Enlightenment on December 23, 2023, "Today, spirituality must be ten steps ahead of other fields, and spirituality must transform into a new force, a new movement!". Therefore, in New Uzbekistan, elevating spiritual and educational work to a new level and more broadly engaging young people in enhancing their spirituality has become one of the priority tasks.

The development of the spiritual life of society is related to how scientifically grounded people's understanding of spirituality and enlightenment, culture, and science is, as well as how properly it is based on correct theoretical and practical foundations.

In Uzbekistan, we can observe several issues in the field of spirituality and education. Specifically, there is no unified system for organizing spiritual and educational processes. Adequate organizational-practical and scientific-research work is not being carried out to protect our people, especially the youth, from spiritual threats. In this regard, we can see that effective social cooperation among state organizations, civil society institutions, mass media, and the private sector has not been established. In order to solve such problems, we need to take several measures. For example, creating a unified system, strengthening organizational-practical activities, enhancing scientific-research work, improving social cooperation, increasing the role of mass media, and working with the youth. Through these measures, it will be possible to address the existing issues in the spiritual and educational sphere and protect our people from spiritual threats.

Methodology

While analyzing the methodological problems of building an enlightened society in the context of global crises, it was noted that the formation of an individual society is related to its negative aspect – the crisis and gradual disintegration of the civic idea. As globalization encompasses all areas of human life, some people have stopped engaging with matters of spirituality and have begun to see the meaning and purpose of their lives solely in material terms. Materialism is gradually eroding spirituality. This situation was explained by the English philosopher Francis Bacon, who said: "Many people think they can buy everything with their wealth, but in doing so, they first sell themselves".

Studying and improving the socio-spiritual environment is of great importance in modern society. In Uzbekistan, these processes are being elevated to a new level, and a number of innovative technologies and methodologies are being applied to implement them:

1. Studying the socio-spiritual environment

Methodologies:

- **Sociological research:** Surveys, interviews, and focus groups are conducted to study the spiritual profile of the population. Data is collected through questionnaires during this process.
- **Data analysis:** Analyzing the collected statistical data and survey results to identify and assess social problems.
- **Social media analysis:** Using discussions, posts, and messages from social networks to study public opinion.

Identifying problems:

- **Spiritual difficulties:** Studying issues such as the weakening of spiritual values among youth, extremism, and drug addiction.
- **Social injustices:** Identifying disparities between social strata, as well as spiritual problems and crises among citizens.

2. Improving the socio-spiritual environment

Innovative technologies:

- **Online platforms:** Creating online education and enlightenment resources to promote spirituality and culture. These platforms will feature lectures, videos, and information.
- **Mobile applications:** Developing interactive mobile applications to enhance spiritual education and culture. Creating a user-friendly environment for users.

Social participation:

- **Community events:** Ensuring public participation through cultural events, festivals, and seminars organized by local communities.
- **Social projects and programs:** Social programs aimed at youth can be implemented in collaboration with community organizations.

Information and communication technologies:

- **Mass media:** Promoting spiritual values through television, radio, and the internet.
- **Social networks:** Facilitating discussions about spiritual issues and values on platforms like Facebook, Instagram, and Telegram.

It is important to emphasize that the following aspects should be observed in organizing cultural and educational events:

- Achieving high interactivity in cultural and educational events;
- Organizing the process of self-education;
- Taking a comprehensive approach to the event;
- Ensuring that the event is imbued with spiritual-moral, national, and educational values;
- Aligning with the interests of individuals and society.

Result and Discussion

The decisions of our President on March 26, 2021, regarding “Measures for the radical improvement of the system of spiritual and educational work” and “Establishing the targeted fund for supporting spirituality and creativity” are of significant importance in enhancing the effectiveness and impact of spiritual and educational activities in our country. These measures aim to further expand their scope and scale, strengthen the sense of involvement in the ongoing reforms among the population, especially the youth, reinforce unity and cooperation among our multi-ethnic people, widely promote national values, traditions, and customs, actively support artistic creativity and reading culture, and establish a unified system for coordinating work in the field.

In order to elevate spiritual and educational activities in Uzbekistan to a new level and improve the state of the socio-spiritual environment, the following actions need to be implemented:

A. Developing the education system:

- **Strengthening spiritual subjects:** Adding spirituality, ethics, and historical values to the curricula.
- **Teacher training:** Conducting seminars and training sessions to enhance the qualifications of teachers in spiritual education.

B. Public relations:

- **Considering citizens' opinions:** Studying public opinion and reflecting its results in state policies.

- *Platforms for exchange of ideas:* Establishing open platforms for the exchange of ideas between citizens and specialists.

Studying and improving the socio-spiritual environment processes help address important social issues in Uzbekistan. By involving innovative technologies and public participation, the efficiency of identifying problems and finding solutions is increased. These processes are particularly significant in ensuring the spiritual education of the younger generation.

The adoption of several decisions and decrees regarding the development of spirituality in our country is serving as a catalyst for the advancement of this field. In particular, the resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, numbered PQ-4307, adopted on May 3, 2019, on "Additional measures to enhance the effectiveness of spiritual and educational work"; the resolution numbered PQ-5040, adopted on March 26, 2021, on "Radical improvement of the system of spiritual and educational work"; the decree numbered PF-60, adopted on January 28, 2022, regarding the "Development strategy of New Uzbekistan for 2022-2026"; and the decree numbered PF-27, adopted on February 28, 2023, concerning the state program for implementing the "Development strategy of New Uzbekistan for 2022-2026" under the "Year of attention to people and quality education", are all contributing to the complete advancement of this sector to a new, higher level. In this context, one of the priority directions of the "Development strategy of New Uzbekistan for 2022-2026" has been defined as the main task of "Ensuring spiritual development and elevating the sector to a new level". In particular, practical results are being achieved in organizing and conducting spiritual and educational activities within the system of internal affairs agencies in our country.

The current era demands a scientific analysis of the socio-spiritual environment. The lack of a solid foundation for organizing spiritual and educational work in our society is why the expected results are not being achieved. Therefore, our President emphasized the need to critically review the work of the Center for Spirituality and Enlightenment and to radically improve its activities.

Our President proposed the establishment of the Institute for Socio-Spiritual Research based on the educational institution "Promoter of Spirituality" within this center. To ensure the implementation of the resolution numbered PQ-5040, adopted on March 26, 2021, regarding "Measures for the radical improvement of the system of spiritual and educational work", the Institute for Socio-Spiritual Research was established on June 3, 2021.

The tasks of the Institute for Socio-Cultural Research are as follows:

- conducting scientific and practical research on the state of spiritual and educational activities, the role of national ideology in the country's development, threats negatively affecting societal stability, and ways to eliminate them;
- investigating, assessing, and preparing scientific and practical proposals to improve the state of the socio-spiritual environment in the country;
- developing effective and impactful modern promotional technologies and methods for conducting spiritual and educational promotion activities;

- conducting research to strengthen the ideological and informational immunity of the population against ideological assaults, as well as enhancing the culture of using the internet;
- developing comprehensive measures aimed at combating issues such as indifference to the fate of the nation, localism, tribalism, corruption, neglect of family values, and irresponsibility in the upbringing of youth [4].

Conclusion

Raising spiritual and educational work to a new level and improving the socio-spiritual environment in Uzbekistan is crucial for the development of society. The analyses presented in the article indicate that it is necessary to strengthen the role of the education system in enhancing the spiritual values of youth, implement innovative programs, and make effective use of mass media. The joint efforts of the state, educational institutions, and the community are of particular importance in addressing social issues. These processes serve to shape the spiritual and moral values essential for the future of the country. In the future, it is necessary to develop and implement specific strategies based on the results obtained.

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